Docket No.: 22131-00019-US

(PATENT)

## IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Patent Application of:

Denis Jouaffre et al.

Application No.: Not Yet Assigned

Filed: Concurrently Herewith Art Unit: N/A

For: METHOD OF PRE-HEATING A POT FOR

THE PRODUCTION OF ALUMINIUM BY

**ELECTROLYSIS** 

Examiner: Not Yet Assigned

Confirmation No.: N/A

## **INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT (IDS)**

Commissioner for Patents P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Dear Sir:

Pursuant to 37 CFR 1.56, 1.97 and 1.98, the attention of the Patent and Trademark Office is hereby directed to the references listed on the attached PTO/SB/08. It is respectfully requested that the information be expressly considered during the prosecution of this application, and that the references be made of record therein and appear among the "References Cited" on any patent to issue therefrom.

This Information Disclosure Statement accompanies the new patent application submitted herewith.

A summary/abstract translation of the non-English language references is enclosed.

A copy of each foreign or non-patent reference on the PTO/SB/08 is attached.

In accordance with 37 CFR 1.97(g), the filing of this Information Disclosure Statement shall not be construed to mean that a search has been made or that no other material information

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as defined in 37 CFR 1.56(a) exists. In accordance with 37 CFR 1.97(h), the filing of this Information Disclosure statement shall not be construed to be an admission that any patent, publication or other information referred to therein is "prior art" for this invention unless specifically designated as such.

It is submitted that the Information Disclosure Statement is in compliance with 37 CFR 1.98 and the Examiner is respectfully requested to consider the listed references.

The Director is hereby authorized to charge any deficiency in the fees filed, asserted to be filed or which should have been filed herewith (or with any paper hereafter filed in this application by this firm) to our Deposit Account No. 22-0185, under Order No. 22131-00019-US.

Dated: March 17, 2005

Respectfully submitted,

Susan E. Shaw McBee

Registration No.: 39,294

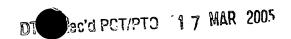
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PTO/SB/08a/b (08-03)
Approved for use through 07/31/2006. OMB 0651-0031
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Substitute for form 1449A/B/PTO				Complete if Known		
INFORMATION DISCLOSURE				Application Number	Not Yet Assigned 1 / 5 20	ידל
				Filing Date	Concurrently Herewith	
S	STATEMENT BY APPLICANT			First Named Inventor	Denis Jouaffre	
				Art Unit	N/A	1
(Use as many sheets as necessary)			necessary) 	Examiner Name	Not Yet Assigned	1
Sheet	1	of	1	Attorney Docket Number	22131-00019-US	

U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS					
Examiner Initials*	Cite No.¹	Document Number  Number-Kind Code <sup>2</sup> ( if known)	Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear
	AA	US-4,265,717	05-05-1981	Wiltzius	
	AB	US-6,338,785	01-15-2002	Vittorio De Nora	

FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS						
Examiner Initials*	Cite No.1	Foreign Patent Document  Country Code <sup>3</sup> -Number <sup>4</sup> -Kind Code <sup>5</sup> (il known)	Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear	ಗ್
	ВА	JP-57123990	08-02-1982	Sumitomo Aluminum Smelting Co		1

\*EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant. <sup>1</sup> Applicant's unique citation designation number (optional). <sup>2</sup> See Kinds Codes of USPTO Patent Documents at <a href="www.uspto.gov">www.uspto.gov</a> or MPEP 901.04. <sup>3</sup> Enter Office that issued the document, by the two-letter code (WIPO Standard ST.3). <sup>4</sup> For Japanese patent documents, the indication of the year of the reign of the Emperor must precede the serial number of the patent document. <sup>5</sup> Kind of document by the appropriate symbols as indicated on the document under WIPO Standard ST.16 if possible. <sup>6</sup> Applicant is to place a check mark here if English language Translation is attached.

NON PATENT LITERATURE DOCUMENTS					
Examiner Initials	Cite No. <sup>1</sup>	Include name of the author (in CAPITAL LETTERS), title of the article (when appropriate), title of the item (book, magazine, journal, serial, symposium, catalog, etc.), date, page(s), volume-issue number(s), publisher, city and/or country where published.	T²		
	CA	Sorlie, M. et al. (1994) 'Cathodes in Aluminum Electrolysis', 2nd Ed., Aluminum-verlag. p. 76-83			

<sup>\*</sup>EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.

Examiner	Date	
Signature	Considered	

<sup>&#</sup>x27;Applicant's unique citation designation number (optional). <sup>2</sup>Applicant is to place a check mark here if English language Translation is attached.